

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 13426 170242Z

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ACTION EA-14

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C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 13426

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR MASS JA

SUBJ: DEFENSE BURDEN SHARING

SUMMARY: CONTINUED DISCUSSION WITH GOJ RESPECTING BURDEN SHARING HELD OCT 13. WHILE MEETING RESOLVED NO RPT NO ISSUES, IT RESULTED IN AGREED APPROACH TO BURDEN SHARING ISSUES, WHICH WILL BE FOLLOWED WITHIN NEXT SEVERAL DAYS. FONOFF REPS WERE NOT RPT NOT OPTIMISTIC THAT MUCH COULD BE DONE. END SUMMARY.

1. ON OCT 13, 1973, DCM, POL/MIL COUNSELOR AND MDAO DEPUTY CHIEF CALLED ON FONOFF DEPUTY VICE MINISTER TOGO, AMERICAN AFFAIRS BUREAU DIRECTOR-GENERAL OKAWARA AND SECURITY DIVISION CHIEF YAMASHITA TO FOLLOW UP ON DISCUSSION IN MAY SECURITY SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING RELATING TO GOJ BURDEN SHARING. DCM POINTED OUT THAT IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT WE WILL SOON HAVE TO MAKE SHOWING THAT DISCUSSIONS WITH GOJ ON BURDEN SHARING ARE UNDER WAY OR THAT SPECIFIC ACTIONS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO ADJUST AMOUNT OF DEFENSE BURDEN BORNE BY USG AND JAPAN. DCM NOTED THAT US DEFENSE AGENCIES UNDER INCREASING BUDGET SQUEEZE. REFERRING TO LAST SECURITY CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 TOKYO 13426 170242Z

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING, DCM NOTED THAT USG HAD THROWN OUT SEVERAL

IDEAS FOR GOJ CONSIDERATION BUT THAT GOJ HAD NOT YET RESONDED FORMALLY TO ANY OF THEM. HE RECALLED THAT THE PROPOSALS DEALT WITH DEFENSE EQUIPMENT PROCUREMENT, INCREASED ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THIRD COUNTRIES (KOREA), INCREASED AEW AND ASW ACTIVITY BY JSDF, AND MECHANISMS TO REDUCE COST TO USG OF MILITARY PRESENCE IN JAPAN (LABOR AND FACILITIES O&M, FOR EXAMPLE). SINGLING OUT DEFENSE EQUIPMENT PROCUREMENT AS EXAMPLE OF POSSIBLE INQUIRY, DCM NOTED THAT THERE APPEARED TO BE QUALITATIVE SHIFT IN PROCUREMENT PATTERN BETWEEN THIRD AND FOURTH DEFENSE BUILDUP PLANS. SHIFT WAS AWAY FROM ACQUISITION OF MAJOR WEAPONS SYSTEMS TO ACQUISITION OF PARTS AND MISCELLANEOUS SUPPLIES. IF THIS APPARENT TREND CONTINUES, IT WOULD SEEM THAT PROCUREMENT IN US FOR FIFTH DBP WOULD BE RATHER SMALL; AND QUESTION FOR BOTH GOVERNMENTS IS WHETHER OR NOT APPARENT SHIFT IN PATTERN REPRESENTS LONG TERM TREND. IF SO, WHAT ARE IMPLICATIONS BOTH IN COMMERCIAL AND MILITARY TERMS?

2. TOGO AND OKAWARA WERE PESSIMISTIC ABOUT UTILITY ANY EARLY DISCUSSIONS ON PROCUREMENT ISSUE SINCE EXPERTS COMMITTEE HAS BEEN GIVEN JURISDICTION OVER AEW AND ASW EQUIPMENT PROCUREMENT ISSUE, AND DEFENSE BUILDUP PLANS ARE MADE BY NATIONAL DEFENSE COUNCIL, WHICH ALREADY HAS SPOKEN WITH RESPECT TO FOURTH DBP. ACCORDINGLY, WOULD APPEAR THAT FOURTH DBP IS LOCKED UP AND MAJOR PROCUREMENT IN FIFTH DBP CANNOT BE DISCUSSED FRUITFULLY UNTIL EXPERTS COMMITTEE HAS COMPLETED ITS STUDY (SUMMER, 1974). AFTER GOOD DEAL OF DISCUSSION ON THIS POINT, IT WAS FINALLY AGREED THAT FONOFF AND EMBASSY WOULD ESTABLISH A GROUP TO DISCUSS PROCUREMENT. OKAWARA CAUTIONED THAT GOJ SIDE PROBABLY COULD NOT DO MUCH MORE THAN LISTEN. EMBASSY PLANS USE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS PROCUREMENT NOT ONLY OF ASW AND AEW SYSTEMS, BUT OF OTHER POSSIBLE SYSTEMS AND MAJOR PIECES OF EQUIPMENT.

3. COMMENT: WE DO NOT EXPECT THESE DISCUSSIONS TO RESULT IN PROCUREMENT COMMITMENTS BY GOJ. ALTHOUGH 4TH DBP THEORETICALLY CAN BE REVISED, MOST WE CAN EXPECT IS THAT GOJ REPS WILL BE IMPRESSED BY IMPLICATIONS OF GROWING NEED FOR DEFENSE PROCUREMENTS IN US TO OFFSET SOMEWHAT ALLEGATIONS OF JAPANESE FREE RIDE AND TO PRODUCE COMPATIBILITY

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PAGE 03 TOKYO 13426 170242Z

OF MILITARY SYSTEMS. END COMMENT. ON QUESTIONS SUCH AS LABOR AND JOINT USE, OKAWARA INDICATED THAT GOJ WOULD HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY, BUT HE CAUTIONED THAT BOTH AREAS CONTAIN INHERENT LIMITATIONS.

4. NEXT STEP IS FOR EMBASSY TO DEVELOP LIST OF POSSIBILITIES FOR BURDEN SHARING, ALONG WITH INDICATION OF HOW EACH COULD BEST BE APPROACHED. FONOFF WILL PROVIDE EMBASSY STUDY OF

CONTRIBUTIONS ALREADY BEING MADE BY GOJ FOR DEFENSE AND FOR
COSTS RELATED TO US MILITARY PRESENCE IN JAPAN.
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